



# GOOD NEWS FROM THE STATEHOUSE

## Office of Governor Mitch Daniels

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### Governor Works to Increase Benefits for Hoosier Veterans

As the 2007 Legislative Session begins, Governor Daniels has made it a top priority to help Hoosier veterans and military families.

"Hoosiers revere our veterans as deeply as anyone in America, but Indiana law, ironically, does not fully reflect that reverence," said Daniels.

Click [here](#) for more information.

### No Tolls on I-69

Governor Mitch Daniels proposed the construction of the Indiana Commerce Connector, an outerbelt tollway that would link six interstates through Morgan, Johnson, Shelby, Hancock and Madison counties. The connector would stimulate economic development for many regions of the state and ease traffic congestion on existing interstates, the I-465 loop and other highways.

Click [here](#) for more information.

### Services to Improve in FSSA

Governor Daniels signed an agreement on Dec. 28th with an IBM-led team of partners to work with the state to help modernize the state's failing eligibility system. The agreement will utilize Hoosiers in state government and the private sector to provide administrative and technological support. Indiana has had the worst record in the country over the last 10 years in reducing its TANF caseload.

Click [here](#) for more information.

The Governor's office is currently taking applications for its Governor's Fellowship Program. Click [here](#) to print an application.

### Governor Proposes His Plan to Fund Full Day Kindergarten

Governor Daniels recently proposed a full day kindergarten (FDK) plan that would give all Hoosier children the opportunity to attend FDK by August, 2009.

"Full-day kindergarten works, it's needed, and it's time to get it done," said Daniels.

Click [here](#) for more information.



Governor Daniels spent the day with FDK students in New Albany, and in other FDK classrooms across the state.

### Governor Introduces Plan for Healthier Indiana

Governor Mitch Daniels proposed a simple yet innovative health plan that would provide health insurance coverage for more than 100,000 Hoosiers, reduce smoking rates -- especially among kids -- and immunize more Indiana children.

Click [here](#) for more information.

### Governor Daniels Announces Strategy to Curb Indiana's "Brain Drain"

Governor Mitch Daniels proposed to transform higher education in Indiana by creating a new scholarship for top Hoosier students who remain in-state after graduation, as well as a fund that will enhance the state's key knowledge-based industries by bringing world-class researchers and scholars to Indiana's public universities.

"To achieve the greatness of which Indiana is capable, we must have true excellence in higher education...", said Daniels. Click [here](#) to learn more.

### Governor Daniels' 2007 Budget

Governor Mitch Daniels recently outlined his budget priorities for the next biennium, specifically a proposal to limit spending growth to 4 percent. For the past two years, the state has operated with honestly balanced budgets, and Daniels said it is imperative to do so again for the next two years without gimmicks or general tax increases.

"Our goal should be a further strengthening of the state's finances which, though vastly improved, are not as secure as we want them to be," said the governor.

Click [here](#) for more information.

### Mitch's Kids Renewed for Another Successful Year

Governor Daniels recently announced the renewal of Mitch's Kids, a program for at-risk students in Indiana. More than 4,500 children received help and tutoring in 2006. Daniels pledged an additional \$1 million in funding for 2007.

Click [here](#) for more information.

### Support Our Troops Plate Unveiled

Governor Mitch Daniels recently unveiled the "Support Our Troops" license plate, which is now available to Hoosiers statewide. Proceeds generated from the sale of the plate will be placed into a fund supporting Indiana National Guard and reservist families.

Click [here](#) to learn more.

### Daniels Continues Fight Against Fraud

Governor Daniels' Administration continues to fight fraud in state government. Daniels announced Dec. 4th that a recent investigation discovered more than one thousand convicted drug felons are receiving state welfare benefits illegally.

Click [here](#) for more information.



Click [here](#) to listen to the Governor's 2007 State of the State Address